(a) whether it is a fact that according to measures announced in December, 1986, his Ministry has to set up a monitoring cell to monitor the prices of price decontrolled drugs and formulations; and

(b) if so, when was the monitoring cell set up and what are the names of price decontrolled drugs and formulation whose prices have gone up more than 30% from 1st December, 1987 to 31st December, 1988 along with percentage increase in each case?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Monitoring Cell was set up after the announcement of DPCO, 1987. As per the provisions of DPCO, 1987, the manufacturers of decontrolled drugs are free to revise the prices. However, the Government is keeping a watch and has intervened wherever found necessary. The required details in the question are quite voluminous and the time and effort required for collection of these will not be commensurate with the results likely to be achieved.

Representations for indentification of Category-II drugs

604. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of Members of Parliament made representations to the Chairman of the Kelkar Committee for indentification of Category-II drugs;

(b) if so, what is the total number of representations received by the Chairman from Members of Parliament from the date of extention of term for rectification of anomalies upto the date of submission of supplementary report to the Government; and

(c) what are the details of each of those representations and what are the considered views of the committee on each?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (c) The details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Recommendations on Category I drugs by the committee on Category II drugs

605. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per policy statement, a Committee was appointed to identify drugs for Category-II of drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this Committee made recommendations on Category I drugs also;

(c) whether it is also a fact that his Ministry have accepted those recommendations; and

(d) if so, the details of those recommendations and the basis on which such recommendations were made by this Committee?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGAL RAO): (a) to (d) The required details are given in the reply to Starred Question No. 77 for 27th February, 1989.

Shifting of Category I drugs

606. SHRI CHANDRIKA PRASAD TRIPATHI: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as per measures announced in December, 1986 it was spelt out that drugs needed for National Health Programmes would be covered under Category-I of Drugs Price Control Order;

(b) whether it is also a fact that Government either price decontrolled these drugs or shifted for higher profit in January, 1989;